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Medical Sociology. By J. P. WARBASSE, M.D. New York: Appleton & Co., 1909. 8vo, pp. xvii+355.

It was not a happy choice that gave this book its name. We find it not a treatise nor an ordered study, but simply a collection of fragments of the thought of a physician whose earnest interest in the social mission of the knowledge which we are wont to call medical his pages clearly reveal. Some of these fragments were originally editorial paragraphs in a medical journal: all may be said to be in the manner of the paragrapher rather than the essayist. From this cause the book fails of the appeal which it might have had. Yet it is sincere, and often suggestively phrased, within its limitations; and perhaps it will carry its message to those whose need is to be set to thinking rather than sustained in their thought on the physical foundations of social welfare.

Proceedings of a Conference of Governors in the White House, Washington, D. C., May 13-15, 1908. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1909. 4to, pp. xxxvii+451.

A complete verbatim report of the proceedings of the important conference called by President Roosevelt to consider the question of the conservation of our natural resources is here made available. Some of the speeches are of permanent value, and if one has the patience to search he may learn many important facts from their perusal. But the more essential and important results of the conference are to be found in the crystallizing of public opinion and the impetus to action consequent upon the gathering, rather than in the record of the speeches there delivered.

Our Foreign Service. The "A B C" of American Diplomacy. By FREDERICK VAN DYNE. Rochester, N. Y.: The Lawyers' Co-operative Publishing Co., 1909. 8vo, pp. ix+316. \$2.50.

The Government has recently given evidence of a desire to induce young men of proficiency to enter the consular and diplomatic service for a career. This book is evidently intended to afford the individual who is thinking of or is about to enter upon such a career the necessary general information as to the prospects open and the nature of the work and duties involved, as well as suggestions and general rules for guidance in carrying out those duties. For such purposes it is well adapted, having the advantage of being written by a man of experience in this service.

Fallacies of Protection. By FREDERIC BASTIAT. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1909. 8vo, pp. viii+230. \$1.00.

A reprint of Stirling's translation of the brilliant and famous *Sophismes économiques*, with the exception of four or five chapters not directly relevant to the subject of protection. Prime Minister Asquith's Introductory Note remarks that: "there is no writer of that time [the Cobdenite era] whose reasoning and

conclusions are less dependent upon local and transient conditions than are those of Bastiat. *The Economic Sophisms* are no more out of date than the *Wealth of Nations*."

Random Reminiscences of Men and Events. By JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co., 1909. 8vo, pp. ix+188. \$1.00.

This volume, made up of a series of articles originally contributed to the *World's Work*, is mainly of interest for such insight as it gives into the opinions and character of the author. Many of the topics upon which the public would be glad to get the author's point of view are not touched upon, and little new light is thrown upon the history of the Standard Oil Company, except in the Backus case, where the company appears to be completely justified.

The Federal Civil Service as a Career. By EL BIE KEAN FOLTZ. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1909. 8vo, pp. ix+329. \$1.50.

There is a rapidly increasing demand from the government for men in the civil service and a growing recognition on its part that it is desirable to make that service attractive to men of ability. This volume, planned for those in the service, as well as those thinking of entering it, seeks to explain the opportunities offered, the best method of preparation, and the chance for public service, for such as do enter.

The Increasing Gold Supply. Compiled by THOMAS GIBSON. New York: The Gibson Publishing Co., 1908. 8vo, pp. 134. \$1.00.

A symposium by various business men and economists as to the effect of the recent increase in the gold supply on security values, interest rates, and prices. A rather abortive attempt is made to represent both sides of the question, but the papers are hardly deep enough to be conclusive on either, and the make-up suggests an inclination to furnish an argument for a bull market.

The Duties and Liabilities of Bank Directors. By EDGAR G. ALCORN. Columbus, O.: Financial Publishing Co., 1908. 8vo, pp. 174. \$2.00.

A simple, clear and brief statement of a bank director's duties, devoid of much attention to legal technicalities, and furnishing only an elementary introduction to the subject.